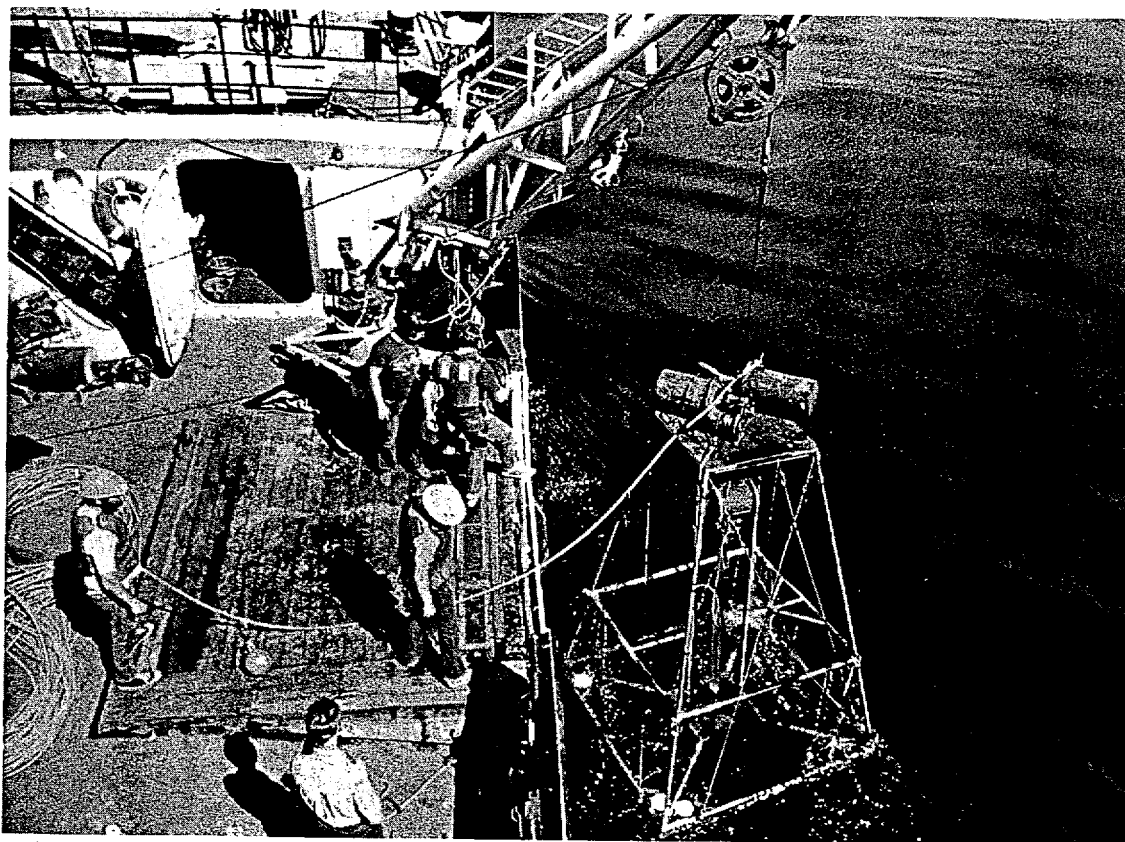


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Geological SURVEY -

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GEOLOGICAL, GEOCHEMICAL AND GEOTECHNICAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE  
BERING SHELF, ALASKA

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OPEN-FILE REPORT 80-979

This report is preliminary and has not been edited or reviewed for conformity  
with Geological Survey standards and nomenclature

*Menlo Park, California*

1980

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S.GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

GEOLOGICAL, GEOCHEMICAL AND GEOTECHNICAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE  
BERING SHELF, ALASKA

by

Matthew C. Larsen, C. Hans Nelson and Devin R. Thor

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Any use of trade names is for descriptive purposes only, and  
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GEOLOGICAL, GEOCHEMICAL, AND GEOTECHNICAL OBSERVATIONS  
ON THE BERING SHELF, ALASKA

M.C. Larsen, C.H. Nelson, and D.R. Thor

Multidisciplinary studies of Bering Sea shelf, Alaska, have been conducted by the U. S. Geological Survey in recent years. Our goal, as participants in this work, has been to assess the geochemical and geotechnical characteristics in northern Bering Sea and Norton Sound and the potential hazards to petroleum development due to various ongoing geologic processes. The studies have enabled us to examine a number of topical problems that are discussed in the 15 papers included in this report.

Many of the papers in this report will be published in The Eastern Bering Sea Shelf: Its Oceanography and Resources (edited by D.W. Hood) or Holocene Marine Sedimentation in the North Sea Basin (edited by S.D. Nio). This open-file report, however, was published because of the constant demand expressed by private companies and state and federal agencies for current information concerning our studies in the northern Bering Sea.

Acknowledgement

This study was supported jointly by the U.S. Geological Survey and by the Bureau of Land Management through interagency agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, under which a multi-year program responding to needs of petroleum development of the Alaskan continental shelf is managed by the Outer Continental Shelf Environmental Assessment Program Office.